FBIS DAILY REPORT

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DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS SUBMIT RESIGNATIONS

PY281634 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1004 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 28 May (DYN) -- All the under secretaries and advisers of the Defense Ministry have submitted their resignations to future Defense Minister Roque Carranza. They have done so to give Raul Borras' successor "freedom of action" when naming his aides. Defense Ministry sources have said that the resignations were submitted to Carranza by Defense Under Secretary Horacio Jaunarena during a lunch they had yesterday, just after the name of the new minister was officially released.

In addition to Jaunarena, the following officials have also resigned: Production Defense Under Secretary Raul Tomas, Budget Programming and Supervision Under Secretary Emilio Cucchiara, and a dozen other officials and advisers who were appointed by Borras.

PRC MISSION VIEWS DEVELOPMENT OF MINE RESOURCES

PY280335 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] A PRC delegation headed by (Liu Sengching), who is president of the China National Nonferrous Metals Industrial Corporation, has been visiting Argentina since 23 May. This delegation was invited by Argentine Mining Secretary engineer Juan Eduardo Barrera to study development possibilities of Argentine mining resources.

The PRC delegation will also visit potassium deposits in Mendoza Province and copper deposits in El Pachol in San Juan Province, as part of an agenda prepared not only by the National Mining Secretariat but by the National Foreign Trade Secretariat. The PRC delegation will also meet with National Space Investigations Commission authorities and with Agua de Dionision Mining Deposits Company which is conducting feasibility studies for exploiting alum in Catamarca Province.

RESEARCH REACTOR TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ALGERIA

PY280116 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM) -- The Argentine Foreign Ministry has announced that an agreement has been reached with the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to construct in that country a research and training reactor like the RA-6, similar to the one in the San Carlos de Bariloche Atomic Center. This was reported as the Algerian New Energy Commission concluded its 1-week visit to our country and returned home.

AIR FORCE CHIEF ON IRAQI AIRPLANE SALE

PY281922 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 May 85

[By Susana (Serrao) from Government House]

[Text] Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier General Horacio Crespo today met with President Raul Alfonsin. Gen Crespo formally invited the chief executive to the ceremony scheduled for 1 June during which first-year cadets will receive their uniforms. The president of the nation will participate in this ceremony as commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

Asked about the sale of Pucara IA-58 airplanes to Iraq, Crespo stated that the president knows about this matter, but that it was not discussed during their meeting. This issue is being handled by the Defense Ministry. A controversy will ensue if the sale is not made, because the sale would allow a better use of the capacity of the airplane factories, which would then become self-supporting.

In reply to questions on the training level of the Air Force after the Malvinas conflict and under the present administration, Crespo said: The levels are normal. Our budget restricts us, but where there is a will there is a way.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON ULTRA-RIGHTIST CELL

PY290235 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 May 85

[Excerpts] This afternoon, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli presided over a meeting in preparation for Ferinoa, a fair that will take place on 17-27 October 1985 in Salta. He made important statements about the General Labor Confederation, the Enrique Menotti Perscarmona case, and his questioning in Congress.

[Begin recording] [Troccoli] The questioning serves to open up an information channel between the executive branch and Congress. We will make a documented and detailed presentation on our concept of order. In Argentina today, security is founded on law and justice. This seems an unnecessary statement, but the question is that it wasn't so far in the past when order was founded on fear and indiscriminate repression. Consequently, there was an apparent and precarious calm on the surface with latent chaos, hatred, and resentment below. Based on this concept of law and justice as the foundation of internal security, we have to recognize that there is an escalation of terrorist violence. For the first time in the political history of the Argentine Republic, we are discovering the existence of an ultra-rightist terrorist cell which has carried out major crimes to finance its own terrorist activities.

[Reporter] Is there any relation between the kidnapping of (Merili) and Pescarmona? Has this relationship been proven?

[Troccoli] It is under investigation. I would say that without doubt there is a relation, but this is my personal opinion. I need to be cautious in my remarks on this subject so as not to frustrate the investigations. The operation that started in Mercedes was publicized too soon and this certainly caused damage rather than benefits. We would have liked for the entire investigation to proceed in secrecy so that it could be more effective.

[Reporter] It favored the escape of the kidnappers?

[Troccoli] I believe that this publicity has flushed out the suspects.

[Reporter] Minetti, for instance?

[Troccoli] Maybe, I don't know. But the investigations are proceeding and we will go as far as we can.

WEAPONS FOUND IN BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE

PY241623 Paris AFP in Spanish 1328 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 May (AFP) -- Security service sources today reported that the police have discovered weapons, explosives, communications equipment, and an underground cell in three weekend houses in the town of Mercedes (100 km south of Buenos Aires).

A military source quoted by the morning daily CLARIN (independent) stated that the finds are reportedly closely linked to the kidnapping of industrialist Enrique Menotti Pescarmona, who was released on the night of 21 May after 42 days in captivity.

The sources stated that one of the houses where the weapons and the explosives were found belongs to Navy Captain Enrique Nicolini, who is currently posted in Puerto Belgrano, 680 km south of Buenos Aires. He served as the security chief of former President Reynaldo Bignone (the last president of the former de facto regime). Neighbors have revealed that the other two houses raided are owned by a businessman and a former member of the security service. The latter has been identified as Raul Gugliel Minetti, who identified himself as a major.

Among the items seized are trotyl bars marked "Danger-U.S.A." [preceding words in English], a sophisticated English-made submachine gun with a silencer, three Browning pistols, five sets of camouflage fatigues, bullet-proof vests, a radio transmitter, black berets, and a military police helmet. The detectives have stated that in one of the houses there was a room that was apparently fitted to serve as a cell. Those in charge of the operation have stated that the security forces broke into the uninhabited houses, shouting: Mr Pescarmona, Mr Pescarmona. The industrialist, who owns an important metalworking industry, was set free after 42 days in captivity on the night of 21 May by three individuals who abandoned him in the town of Ituzaingo (40 km west of Buenos Aires), Buenos Aires Province.

Liniers Raid Nets Uniforms

PY270335 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0150 GMT 26 May 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 25 May (NA) -- Reliable Buenos Aires Province police sources this evening confirmed that a country house on Bouchard Road in the Llavallol area has been raided. The police found weapons and military and police uniforms during the raid, which follows others carried out during the past few days in Mercedes, Liniers, and in this capital in order to discover the members of an "ultra-rightist organization" allegedly responsible for much-publicized abductions and other acts of violence.

According to police sources, the raided country home belongs to an individual named Enzone, who has not yet been found by the security forces. The house is located at 561 Bouchard Road in Llavallol, southeast of greater Buenos Aires. According to the sources the operation lasted 4 hours. The sources stated that during the last military government Enzone belonged to the "intelligence service." This information is considered "of great importance" to the investigations being carried out. Enzone's name is added to that of Raul Guglial Minetti, who allegedly was a bodyguard of former President Reynaldo Bignone, and who, according to information obtained so far, is considered one of the most active members of the ultra-rightist organization.

Judge Denies Ordering Raids

PY282204 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 May 85 p 1

[Text] (NA) -- Mercedes Federal Judge Eduardo Pisoni yesterday denied he ordered police raids over the weekend and said he was unaware of reported raids on a yacht in San Fernando and a villa in Don Torcuato in connection with the kidnapping and later release of Enrique Pescarmona. Pisoni also denied he is investigating the Pescarmona case.

Unofficial reports on Sunday said five persons were arrested and dozens of weapons confiscated after two police raids over the weekend.

ALUISIO PIMENTA NAMED CULTURE MINISTER

PY281315 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Aluisio Pimenta, former rector of the Federal University of Minas Gerais State, has accepted the offer to assume the post of culture minister.

INDUSTRY MINISTER RECEIVES SOVIET DELEGATION

PY280120 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Industry and Commerce Minister Roberto Gusmao today met with a Soviet delegation comprising Soviet Deputy Minister of Ferrous Metallurgy Giorgiy Sergeyev and four other Soviet technicians. Amaro Lanario Jr, president of Brazilian Iron and Steel, Inc, referred to the purpose of the visit paid by authorities of the greatest iron-producing country in the world.

[Begin recording] The purpose of the Soviet delegation's visit is to become acquainted with the Brazilian iron and steel industry. The Soviet minister has come to become acquainted with our iron and steel industry, to learn about its progress, and possibly to pave the way for agreements to supply know-how, technical aid, and equipment. [end recording]

STRIKERS, POLICE CLASH IN SAO PAULO STATE

PY252341 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2247 GMT 25 May 85

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo, 25 May (EFE) -- At least 20 persons were injured and more than 50 arrested during clashes today between the police and pickets of migrant workers in Riberao Preto, north Sao Paulo State.

The migrant workers, mostly sugarcane cutters and orange pickers from the interior of Sao Paulo State, began a strike 3 days ago to demand better salaries. According to labor union sources, 100,000 workers support the strike. However, this information has been denied by the employers, who assert that the situation is almost normal.

In Pitangueiras this morning, the police violently dissolved workers' pickets that were obstructing the exit from the city in an attempt to prevent the circulation of trucks transporting workers who are not observing the strike. During the clashes, which lasted over 1 hour, at least 20 persons were injured and hospitalized.

A few kilometers from Pitangueiras, in Serrana, the police arrested 54 persons, most of them pickets, but after questioning most were released. Among the arrested was Flavio del Valle, director of a local newspaper and a member of the board in charge of coordinating the strike. Del Valle asserted that the police had received orders to arrest the leaders of the movement. Since early this morning all the roads to Serrana were being guarded by members of the military police antiriot force, which dissolved groups of migrant workers and arrested whoever resisted. Police sources asserted that no violent incidents were registered in the city and the arrests were only being carried out in order to guarantee the rights of those who wished to work.

DIPLOMAT DISMISSED FOR CRITICIZING GOVERNMENT

PY290150 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 23 May 85

[Excerpt] After 7 years in the service of the papal mediation over the southern border conflict, diplomat Maximiliano Jarpa has been dismissed from the Foreign Ministry. It was stated that Jarpa was dismissed for debureaucratization purposes, but later Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle explained to Jarpa that the dismissal was due to a lack of confidence in him. In response to questions, Jarpa explained that his superiors at the Foreign Ministry had informed him on 14 May that the president of the Republic and the interior and foreign ministers, excercising their powers, applied Debureaucratization Law 2345, thus dismissing him from the diplomatic service without any chance of appeal. Jarpa said that Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle had informed him chat he had been dismissed from the Foreign Ministry due to a loss of confidence in him. Del Valle told Jarpa that several persons had informed him that they had heard Jarpa criticizing the government.

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON STATE OF SIEGE

PY281933 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia today said that the enforcement of the state of siege is not linked to any specific event, but depends on the general situation of the country and on the daily evaluation made of this situation. This is how Garcia answered the reports about a possible lifting of this exceptional measure. The interior minister said that the answer to this question is the same as usual: The state of siege is studied periodically and evaluated daily. It is not linked to any specific event. The interior minister made this statement after a lecture before 100 businessmen during a seminar organized by the Chilean Institute of Business Administration.

PARTIES DRAFT LAW APPROVAL TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED

PY290131 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpt] The government junta has suspended the deadline established for the approval of the draft law on political parties until the report requested from the Supreme Court of Justice on 23 August 1984 is received. This afternoon the Armed Forces commanders decided that this report must be seen before approving the draft, as established in Article 74 of the current Constitution.

FOUR ARRESTED IN BOMBING OF ELECTRIC TOWERS

PY290214 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Jose Miguel Armendariz, national director of the Government Social Communications Agency [Dinacos], has reported the arrest of four persons in La Serena city. The arrested persons, charged with carrying out bomb attacks against National Electric Power high tension pylons, have been identified as 26-year-old Jose Miguel Vega Flores, aka Mario, active member of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR], who studies engineering at La Serena University; 16-year-old Ivan Sacha Mendieta Rivera, aka Cesar, also a member of the FPMR and who acted as head of the group. Mendieta is in the ninth grade at Gregorio Cordobes High School in La Serena. When the home of the aforementioned terrorist was raided, members of the security forces also arrested accountant Luis Alberto Quintero Estrada, aka Camilo, who lives in Antofagasta, and Rene Maximiliano Rodriguez Lopez, aka Jaime, who said that he is an assistant accountant and lives in Rancagua.

CUBAN MINISTER ON AREA PEACE, RADIO MARTI

FL281628 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1414 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Bogota, 28 May (NOTIMEX) -- Cuban Education Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez has called here for finding lasting peace in Central America and everywhere else in the world. According to him, this would be possible if people would heed Benito Juarez' saying that among nations, as among individuals, respect for the rights of others is peace. However, he said, U.S. imperialism has not understood this very clear thought. Meanwhile, because of its desire to dominate, it causes sterile confrontations among sister nations, participating in conflagrations that harm even its own interests. Interviewed on the occasion of the first special meeting of the Latin American Education Congress, which opened here yesterday, he denied that Cuba exports its revolution as some have sought to make the world believe. After asserting that his country has suffered many imperialistic interventions, he stressed that it currently faces the so-called Radio Marti. The United States has installed it in Miami to broadcast information that runs contrary to the decisions of the people; they in turn have become angry and have expressed their indignation. According to him, the Cuban revolution will not be affected by this type of interference, and he warned that his country maintains its irrevocable right to defend itself with all available resources.

DEFENSE MINISTER CONDEMNS RECENT TERRORISM

PA261537 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1355 GMT 26 May 85

[By Guillermo Tovar Anez]

[Excerpts] Bogota, 26 May (EFE) -- Colombian Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe has condemned the terrorist attacks of the past few days and said that the public order situation has become intolerable. Terrorism has its aspects and we witnessed one of them in Cali several days ago, Vega Uribe said, deploring last Thursday's attack in western Colombia in which a military driver was killed, several guerrilla leaders were wounded, and a garrison was attacked. The officer noted that he hopes that the amnesty law, approved by the Congress on Thursday, will allow those who sincerely want to rejoin the path of the Constitution and peace to reintegrate themselves into democracy with the purpose of ending the violence. He indicated that the military forces will respond with a strong hand against those who do not accept the amnesty and affirmed that the military stance in the peace process of President Belisario Betancur has not been passive. Now I can see where the enemies of peace are, and we have them pinpointed, Vega Uribe stated. Gen Vega Uribe indicated that Colombian problems require security more than peace, and explained that the Armed Forces require certain conditions to provide many services to our fellow citizens, as is our obligation.

Meanwhile, in Bolivar, Cauca Department, in the southern part of the country, 2 persons were killed and 10 wounded in clashes between the Army and the 19 April Movement, M-19, when several members of a guerrilla group attending the funeral of Commander Edison, who was killed on Friday, engaged in a shoot-out and seized the casket. Also, in Bogota 40 members of the Simon Bolivar Command of the same movement occupied the International Red Cross installations demanding that journalists in Magdalena, Cauca Valley, in the southwestern part of the country, verify the fulfillment of the truce. The Red Cross said the occupation was futile. In an isolated incident, a column of the Army of National Liberation blew up a helicopter and oil drilling equipment in Arauca Intendancy on the Venezuelan border, and kidnapped nine operators of the Occidental Petroleum Corporation, who were later released.

ELECTRICITY WORKERS STRIKE DECLARED ILLEGAL

PA231718 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 23 May 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] Jose I. Blandon, director of Panama's Institute of Hydraulic and Electrification Resources (IRHE), said yesterday that the workers' strike currently under way is considered illegal and in violation of Law 8 and of Panama's Labor Code.

An authorized IRHE spokesman told the media that Blandon filed a suit yesterday in the Fourth Circuit Court, declaring the strike illegal.

Blandon, who, from the time of his appointment as director general of the institution, has been confronted with strong opposition from some of the labor unions that are against his selection, said yesterday that "a group of dissidents of the Partido del Pueblo (People's Political Party), have caused strikes in Carrasquilla, Tumba Muerto and in the Chiriqui Province. [quotation marks as published]

Blandon was accompanied during his press conference by the directors of the institution. "We have given instructions to reopen these centers, and if the strike is declared illegal, IRHE can determine what administrative measures can be taken against those who insist on maintaining the work stoppage," he said.

The director general, who had previously occupied the position, said that the rights of free expression had been violated without the accusations being sustained. He urged the strikers to present proof before the proper authorities on the infractions allegedly committed by the institution.

IRHE is one of the most important state agencies in Panama, and provides some 20 per cent of the national income. The agency employs thousands of employees and all of its policies are based on the direction of the central government.

Blandon vigorously condemned the action taken by the dissident groups, in the sense that it has reduced the institution's emergency service. He said that it is the workers' obligation to comply with this, even if the strike was legal.

"It is our responsibility to guarantee the service, and for this we have most of our technicians working to normalize continuation of energy to the consumers," Blandon said.

Blandon reiterated his willingness to meet with the strikers and discuss the case with them "within the methods established by the national Constitution."

Defense Forces Take Over IRHE

PA290203 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0110 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Panama City, 23 May (ACAN-EFE) -- The Defense Forces of Panama today took over the main installations of the state electricity company to "guarantee the security of state properties." Jose Blandon, director of the Institute of Hydraulic and Electrification Resources (IRHE) today asserted in a press conference that the Panamanian Army responded to an executive branch request to make possible the "efficient" services of the institute he presides over.

Thousands of IRHE workers, who are not supported by the institute's union directorate, have been on strike since the first week of May, protesting the recent appointment of Blandon, who has been accused of "embezzlement" during his previous administration of the same company.

Twelve of the workers leading the strike, which has been declared illegal through documents that are still being processed, will be fired for illegal actions such as "slander, lies, and threats," among others, said Blandon. Jose Blandon, member of the ruling Democratic Revolutionary Party, was director of IRHE in 1984, deputy director for 3 years, and finance director prior to that.

The workers on strike, who paralyzed three of the main IRHE work centrals, two of which are in the capital, were peacefully evicted by the Defense Forces members, who took over their duties, according to reports by IRHE authorities. The IRHE directorate members added that the strike has not interrupted the distribution of electricity throughout the country at any time, even though the workers on strike "sabotaged" some of the installations and technical equipment. While the workers leading the movement asserted that they are supported by 3,100 of the 5,500 IRHE workers, the directorate authorities say that only 20 percent have abandoned their jobs.

The IRHE workers, clearly divided on this strike, today received the support of the National Council of Organized Workers (Conato), the largest union confederation of Panama, comprising approximately 200 unions, as long as they adopt a common front. Lorenzo Mora, one of the Conato leaders, said that President Nicolas Ardito Barletta will be asked to withdraw the Defense Forces from the IRHE installations and start an investigation to clarify the demands presented by the workers on strike.

In addition, Jose Blandon pointed out that the strike will conclude in less than 48 hours and the IRHE will renew its regular service, which has deteriorated mainly in the metropolitan area. Blandon added: "Any labor movement has my support," but this strike, in addition to being illegal, does not represent the IRHE union's demands."

Approximately 1,000 IRHE workers marched peacefully through the main streets in the Panamanian capital this afternoon to reiterate their rejection of the company's current director.

1,800 UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS GO ON STRIKE

PA231606 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 23 May 85 p 5

[Text] The Association of University of Panama Professors [Apudep] hereby reports to the university community and the community in general that the teaching staff of the University of Panama, regional university centers, extension centers, and institutes are on strike in view of the fact that the rector of the University of Panama, Dr Ceferino Sanchez, has not given a specific reply to the Apudep's requests presented 2 months ago.

The professors are requesting salary increases and a more serious academic standing at the university. They are also asking for job stability for the professors and prompt handling of assignments of senior teaching posts; reclassification according to years of service, retirement, regulations; as well as an active participation in outlining university programs and policies, including the budget.

To date, 1,800 professors have joined the strike in solidarity, and this has affected the Schools of Liberal Arts, Public Administration, Agronomy, Law, Social Communication, Natural Sciences, Economics, and the Central American Institute of Education, Administration, and Supervision, as well as the regional university centers at Chiriqui, Cocle, and Veraguas, and the university extension center at La Chorrera. Yesterday afternoon, Dr Ceferino Sanchez notified the professors of his refusal to yield to their demands for salary adjustments.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PROTEST BORDER INCIDENT

PA281553 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] The National Security Council, which met at the Presidential Palace last night, again analyzed the refugee problem and received a report on the incidents that occurred in Las Tiricias on Sunday. An effort is being made to define who has refugee status in accordance with the 1951 UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] agreement. Regarding this matter, a UNHCR report was read, as well as a report from the Attorney General's Office. An official report will be sent to the Security Council.

Danilo Jimenez, presidency minister and spokesman of the National Security Council, said that the refugeee transit centers, as well as the camps for refugees and others who do not qualify as refugees must be located far from the border. The reason for this is to avoid problems which might result from possible contact with counter-revolutionaries. In fact, Jimenez even admitted that if you gather all potential combatants in a single place there is a risk of creating a kind of anti-Sandinist camp.

The National Security Council also asked the National Commission for Refugees to establish a nonmilitary vigilance plan [words indistinct] with its respective cost. This proposal will be presented to the country to establish what is needed to guarantee security at refugee camps and nearby towns. Regarding this, it must be noted that the special budget already includes approximately 5 million colones for the Justice Ministry to establish within the refugee camps a vigilance force which is similar to that within the penitentiary system.

The situation in Las Tiricias was also analyzed at the National Security Council last night. In the next few days, the Foreign Ministry will send a protest note to its Nicaraguan counterpart regarding the 120-mm shells that fell on our territory on Sunday. Colonel Oscar Vidal, director of the public force, presented a report at the meeting. He showed a map of the area where pieces of mortar shells and shrapnel were found quite a distance from the border, inside Costa Rican territory.

ARDE SAYS SANDINISTS SHELL BORDER AREA

PA281736 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Rebels have charged that the Sandinists are firing into Costa Rican territory. Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] fighters have suffered three casualties in southern Nicaragua following several days of attacks there.

According to charges raised by ARDE spokesman this afternoon, it has been confirmed that the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] is firing mortav shells into Costa Rica to deceive troops and make them think the rebels are in Costa Rican territory. The shelling in southern Nicaragua grew in intensity on Sunday along the banks of the San Juan River, mainly at Bartola, El Castillo, and Cardenas.

The Sandinists are using high-powered weapons. ARDE reported that the EPS is using artillery and mortars in the offensive that is currently under way in southern Nicaragua close to Tiricias in Costa Rica. In addition, it was reported that the mangy dogs [piricuacos] are fighting at El Castillo with BM-?1 multiple rocket launchers which have a range of 1,500 meters.

The Sandinist forces consist of 250 men who fought using conventional war tactics at first, but who have now resorted to the guerrilla tactics used by ARDE.

The rebels reported two wounded and one dead among their ranks, but have not indicated any enemy casualties.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE DISCUSSES CABINET CHANGES, U.S. VISIT

PA282150 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 27 May 85 pp 53, 56

[Text] President Duarte confirmed certain cabinet changes last night upon his return from a several-days tour in the United States. During his stay in the United States he met with President Reagan, received an honorary degree from Notre Dame University, held talks with State Department and Pentagon officials, and held several press conferences.

Speaking about changes in the cabinet, he said that Rodolfo Antonio Castillo Claramount, the current interior minister, will become foreign minister. He also confirmed that a Culture Ministry will be created and that Adolfo Rey Prendes, the current presidency minister, will head it.

The other change he told us about is that Jorge Eduardo Tenorio, the current foreign minister, will be the new presidency minister. He disclosed that certain ministers have been confirmed and that he will immediately begin to study the new changes within his team of advisers.

Furthermore, President Duarte criticized the strikes and the occupation of certain hospitals. He said that these movements are part of a strategy to destabilize the country.

In regard to the dismissal of the attorney general, he said that he agreed with the change because Dr Jose Francisco Guerrero had not done anything to investigate certain crimes, including those of Msgr Romero, Viera, and Las Hojas cases among others.

He also referred to the talks with the guerrillas. He said that he agreed with continuing them to find peace but that he rejected "the tactical dialogue."

In addition, he said that at the Pentagon, he discussed the possibility of renegotiating the military debt. He said that the IDB president and leaders of that organization promised to help him with certain programs for education, the development of small businesses, and the construction of the Lempa Bridge. He said that all the bureaus of the State Department promised him full support so he noted that he feels that there will be no problems when the time comes to approve more aid for El Salvador, whether economic or military.

He stated that in a lecture in the United States he explained the Salvadoran and Central American situation, as well as Nicaragua's interference in Salvadoran affairs and the support of that regime for the Salvadoran guerrillas.

ARMY DISMANTLES FMLN CAMP ON MENDEZ ISLAND

PA260130 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 May 85 p 1

[Text] San Miguel, 23 May -- Troops from the Libertadores antiterrorist battalion and treasury police, trained in counterinsurgency, fought yesterday from 0900 to 1800 with FMLN guerrillas in the Isla de Mendez mangrove swamps, Jiquilisco, Usulutan Department.

It was reported that on the island the Libertadores troops dismantled an FMLN camp, which contained an arsenal that was supplied from Nicaragua and served as a gathering point for extremists arriving from other countries who were then sent to various fronts inside El Salvador. The official report stated that the Libertadores troops fought with the guerrillas in dogged hand to hand combat until the rebels were beaten. At one point the Libertadores troops were reinforced by soldiers of the Atlacatl Battalion and 6th Infantry Brigade from Usulutan. They also had the support of observation helicopters and planes while Navy patrol boats waited for the extremists in Jiquilisco Bay and on the high seas in case the rebels tried to escape by sea.

It was explained that the Libertadores troops were on routine patrol in the Isla de Mendez marshes when they were ambushed by FMLN guerrillas firing rifles, machine guns, and mortars. For a time the troops were surrounded, but they used the mangroves to their advantage, took the offensive to fight for 9 hours, and managed to occupy the positions of the extremists. Subsequently the troops discovered an arsenal and many documents that were turned over to military intelligence. The source said that the Armed Forces deplore the death of the treasury police officer Jose Nicolas Bonifacio Delgado. Two Libertadores Battalion soldiers were seriously wounded and are now in the 3d Infantry Brigade hospital.

It was reported yesterday that the guerrillas set up a post at km 168 of the Military Highway in Las Marias, Jocoro, Morazan Department. They were caught by surprise by a 3d Military Detachment patrol from La Union, which resulted in a clash that lasted several hours. Several guerrillas were wounded.

Finally, it was reported that yesterday only 15 percent of the buses were operating in the eastern part of the country. The number of buses had increased to 30 percent today while troops and armored personnel carriers patrolled the highways as a security measure for traffic in general. No incidents or extremist attacks have been reported so far.

COUNTERINSURGENCY EFFORTS CONTINUE NEAR HONDURAS

PA282056 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Counterinsurgency activities continued today in Las Vueltas and also in an area 5 km from the border with Honduras. This was confirmed by military sources at the El Paraiso brigade. Artillery fire was heard in northern Chalatenango Department near Las Vueltas and La Reina last night. According to military sources, the Army dismantled an FMLN camp near this area in the past 48 hours.

In Morazan Department, the small amount of traffic seen this morning shows that most drivers are abiding by the guerrillas' orders because they fear the rebels will destroy their vehicles if they travel the roads.

At least 50 vehicles carrying cargo to various Central American regions are waiting for the guerrillas to lift the travel restriction, especially in eastern El Salvador. These vehicles are waiting at El Amatillo border post in La Union Department.

FMLN guerrillas destroyed a pylon leaving more than 30 towns in Usulutan and San Miguel Departments without electricity. This incident occurred near San Benito, 3 km east of Cuscatlan bridge, in Mercedes Umana jurisdiction, yesterday. So far, 15 September Battalion troops are combing the area to check if the rebels mined it.

According to another report, transportation along the Pan-American, Coastal, Military, and Northern Trunk Highways is irregular.

We have received a report from Goacoran Bridge, on the border with Honduras, saying there has been no electricity there since 22 May. Reasons for the outage are unknown. It was also said that transportation to the eastern region has been suspended, thus affecting free trade in the area. In Lolotiquillo, Morazan, it was reported that they have been without electricity for 3 days and are asking the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission to restore this service. It was also said that on the border with Guatemala commercial transportation of local and foreign vehicles is normal.

FMLN REPORTS DEFEAT OF 'SENTINEL' OPERATION

PA282020 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 27 May 85

[War report issued by the Joint Command of the FMLN Modesto Ramirez Central Front -- date, place not given]

[Text] The "Sentinel" military operation of the puppet army of Duarte and Vides Casanova has been defeated. Army military units of the Cazadores Rapid Deployment Battalion of Military Detachment No 5 and the 2d Cazadores Battalion of the 1st Infantry Brigade supported by the artillery of the [word indistinct] artillery brigade began a military operation called "Sentinel" that was defeated in the areas of El Paisnal, the Northern Trunk Highway, and the villages of Mirandilla, [name indistinct], La Pavas, (Los Mejias), Loma de Ramos, Nance Verde, Los Ramirez, (Los Lirios), El Salitre, Montepeque, Palacios, (Guayabal), (Palacios de Oratorio), Calle Neuva, and La Bermuda. The unseccessful operation was carried out from 17 to 24 May.

The battered puppet forces faced the FMLN units, which are superior in morale and fighting spirit, that control the previously mentioned areas. They forced the troops of the genocidal army to flee in disarray, abandoning large amounts of supplies sent by Ronald Reagan. We also inflicted 37 [as heard] casualties on the enemy. We inflicted 18 casualties on the rapid deployment battalion, 6 on the [words indistinct], and 3 on the Belloso Rapid Deployment Battalion. We lament the heroic death of Companero [name indistinct]. We also denounce that the Belloso Battalion [words indistinct] destroys their crops [words indistinct]. Revolution or death, we will win.

[Signed] Joint Command of the FMLN Modesto Ramirez Central Front

GUATEMALA

ASSEMBLY APPROVES MEASURE ON BELIZE DISPUTE

PA281745 Paris AFP in Spanish 1605 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpts] Guatemala, 28 May (AFP) -- After an exhausting 5-hour debate, the Guatemalan Constituent Assembly last night approved an article that may facilitate a negotiated settlement to its territorial dispute with Belize.

The article of the new constitution empowers the executive branch to undertake efforts "tending to resolve the question of Guatemala's right to Belize." The article indicates, however, that any proposed agreement must be submitted to a popular referendum.

The current Constitution and previous ones emphatically stated that "Belize is Guatemalan territory." Guatemala has had a territorial dispute with Belize since the last century and has rejected Belizean independence, "granted by Great Britain in September 1981." Guatemala has denied officials recognition to the new state and blocked its entry to the OAS. The 21,000 square km of Belizean territory is claimed totally by Guatemala, but it is believed that in the future Guatemala may accept "an honorable settlement" that will guarantee it an outlet to the Caribbean Sea.

On various occasions, officials of the Foreign Ministry have admitted that negotiations are taking place regarding territory in southern Belize. Recently it was agreed that Guatemala might recognize the independence of the neighboring country in exchange for its maritime platform [plataforma marina].

The text of the new constitution, which will become effective with the new civilian government in 1986, also indicates that the Guatemalan Government "will promote social, economic, and cultural relations with the peoples of Belize." Furthermore, it affirms that "regarding nationality, citizens of Belize will be subject to the rules that this constitution establishes for citizens of Central American countries."

AMBASSADOR SAYS TIES WITH U.S. 'EXCELLENT'

PA240017 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 23 May 85 p 6

[Text] The U.S. Congress has approved $78 million in financial assistance for Guatemala. This financial assistance will be included in the next U.S. fiscal year budget, Ambassador to Washington Eduardo Palomo Escobar said yesterday. PRENSA LIBRE interviewed the diplomat shortly after he met with the head of state at the national palace. He said that he was recalled to Guatemala by the Foreign Ministry for consultations, which is common in diplomacy.

Bilateral relations with the United States have been very good for the past few years, he said. I believe that since 1977 they have never been better. Let us recall that in 1977 military assistance was suspended.

Now the Reagan administration has asked Congress for $78 million for Guatemala, including $10.3 million for military purchases. The cooperation will also be aimed at solving social, agricultural, educational, and health problems in the Altiplano area. Reagan's request has already approved by Congress, and we believe that, at the level of subcommittees, "we do not anticipate any problems." [sentence as published]

All of this, he continued, is a result of the political process being carried out by the government of General Mejia Victores. The United States views our elections with much hope because they represent a positive change. Top U.S. officials have faith in the electoral process to be carried out in Guatemala and have said that the bilateral relations between the two countries are excellent.

Palomo Escobar also said that the United States is worried about the economic problems facing Guatemala. For this reason the assistance program includes funds for the reactivation of the economy. There have also been talks with executives of the World Bank and the IBD, who said that they want to increase their assistance to our country in the near future. Palomo concluded by stating that relations between Guatemala and the United States have improved remarkably.

ARMY COLONEL COMMENTS ON MISSING AMERICANS

PA252350 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 May 85 p 2

[Text] One North American has left. This is the Army's theory on Blake and Davis. The other is presumed to be among the rebels in the LXIL [as heard] Triangle. There are indications that one of the two U.S. citizens missing since March left Guatemala while the other is presumed to still be in the LXIL Triangle (Huehuetenango) among rebel groups. Colonel Rene Morales Paiz, chief of the Army Information and Press Department, made this statement yesterday.

Reporter Nicholas Blake and his companion Griffith Davis were last seen on 28 March and their whereabouts are unknown. At first it was reported that Blake came to report on the insurgency, and that he entered the jungle in search of contacts who could lead him to the rebels. Colonel Morales told a PRENSA LIBRE reporter that according to reports available, one of the U.S. citizens left the country for Mexico via secret paths along the border area in Huehuetenango. The other is presumed to be in the LXIL Triangle with government opponents.

When asked whether those people could be helping the rebels, Morales said that it was not possible to determine that as yet. They came from El Salvador where they had also been with rebels of that neighboring country. They arrived in Guatemala to make contacts with the rebels and carry out their activities. The truth is that they entered the jungle aware of the danger that they were facing. In fact, the U.S. Government even warned them not to visit those regions because they are areas of conflict.

NICARAGUA

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS

PA281955 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] The Defense Ministry today reported that two planes that flew over Managua last night and early today were repelled by seven warning shots fired by the Sandinist People's Army's [EPS] antiaircraft defense installations in the city. One of the planes flew over Chiltepe Hill at approximately 1922 on Monday night and the EPS fired five shots at it. The other plane flew over San Francisco Libre at approximately 0100 today. The EPS fired three warning shots at this aircraft.

CARRION DISCUSSES TALKS WITH MISURASATA

PA281648 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Upon his return from Bogota last night, Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz, first deputy interior minister, said that the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata] unilaterally decided to break off the talks it had been holding with the Nicaraguan Government. He added that Misurasata wanted to minimize the Mexico agreements and introduce foreign elements into a problem that is the exclusive concern of Nicaraguans and that is being used and worsened by the U.S. Government's interventionist, aggressive policy.

Commander Luis Carrion said that the Nicaraguan Government reiterated its desire to continue discussing the fundamental issues once Misurasata expressed its desire to fulfill the Mexico agreements through the establishment of mechanisms to implement them.

[Begin Carrion recording] Yesterday, the Misurasata delegation unilaterally decided to break off the talks it had been holding with the revolutionary government. In reference to this, the Nicaraguan delegation states that in view of a number of armed offensive actions against cities, communities, and civilian installations that were carried out by Misurasata forces and admitted by its leadership after 22 April, the date when the Mexico agreements were signed, the Nicaraguan Government requested the establishment of practical mechanisms in this meeting to prevent the recurrence of such actions and to guarantee the effective fulfillment of the Mexico agreements and to thus be able to continue the discussion of the fundamental issues that Misurasata has stated are basic.

Although the Misurasata delegation admitted its responsibility in several of those attacks, it refused to establish practical mechanisms and conditioned the fulfillment of the Mexico agreements, on the demand that the government withdraw all of its troops from a large sector of the Atlantic coast. Misurasata systematically tried to minimize the Mexico agreements reaching the extreme of stating that it signed those agreements due to the international impact they would have. As an agrument to break off the talks, Misurasata stated that it did not see any desire on the part of the government to work toward solving the fundamental issues. However, Misurasata agreed with the government delegation that positions of both sides had gotten closer because of the talks.

The Nicaraguan Government delegation reiterated its willingness to continue discussing the fundamental issue once Misurasata made effective its desire to fulfill the Mexico agreements through the establishment of mechanisms that would lead to the practical implementation of those agreements. Despite this, Misurasata maintained its intrasigent attitude. After announcing the unilateral break in the talks, Misurasata stated that it would only be willing to renew them if the government accepted the condition to have foreign organizations and the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference act as mediators. The government delegation rejected that proposal first of all because it seriously harms Nicaragua's sovereignty since it seeks to introduce foreign elements into a problem that is the exclusive concern of Nicaraguans and that is being used and worsened by the U.S. Government's interventionist, aggressive policy. Second, it substantially modifies the framework agreed upon to hold these talks, one of the main elements of which is precisely direct conversations between the government and Misurasata.

The Nicaraguan Government reiterated its willingness to continue the talks in the framework in which they were initiated. It maintains its willingness to renew them at the moment that Misurasata requests their resumption. It maintains its willingness to continue to unilaterally respect the Mexico agreements in relations with all Misurasata groups or other Indian groups that wish to accept these agreements.

The Nicaraguan Government deeply regrets Misurasata's decision which, objectively, only benefits the U.S. Government's aggressive policy to the serious detriment of all Nicaraguans who are victims of that policy. [end recording]

In the meeting with Misurasata, the Nicaraguan delegation led by Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz briefly summarized the fulfillment of the Mexico agreements signed by the government and Misurasata. Commander Carrion Cruz also pointed out that in flagrant violation of the Mexico agreements, Misurasata, through Brooklyn Rivera, admitted that it participated in the recent attacks on Laguna de Perlas and Bluefields.

[Begin recording] In the meeting with Misurasata, the Nicaraguan Government presented a summary of the actions that have taken place on the Atlantic coast since 22 April. This report is entitled: "Brief Evaluation of the Fulfillment of the Mexico Agreements Between the Nicaraguan Government and Misurasata." It states that a number of military actions were carried out and that these hindered or violated the Mexico agreements. The government asked Misurasata for an explanation of these actions in order to find out who was responsible for them. It asked Misurasata to specify which actions it carried out. In those cases in which it admitted its participation, the government asked Misurasata for an explanation.

At first, Misurasata did not want to specifically reply to the government document. At one time, it said that it would reply by issuing another document explaining its position on the fulfillment of the Mexico agreements. On Sunday morning it presented a document entitled: "Evaluations by Misurasata." Apart from referring to the government in (?offensive) terms and including various (?insults), the document does not mention any element or specific action with which they can accuse the government of any important violation of the Mexico agreements. For its part, Misurasata accepts responsibility for kidnapping the doctor and nurse in [words indistinct], and justifies this action by saying that it was a clash that took place by chance and that they are holding them to [words indistinct]. They accept their participation in the events in Laguna de Perlas, although they deny that these actions took place [words indistinct] Laguna de Perlas as did occur and they say that they took place outside the town. They accept their responsibility for the events in Bluefields.

I will read the text of what Misurasata said in its document: On 18 May, a military operation was carried out against a 50-man Indian force that operated near the city of Bluefields. The group's position had been detected by State Security. On that day, the Indians advanced inside the city. This was a tactic used by the Interior Ministry to obtain their annihilation and the consequent political publicity. In their withdrawal, the Indians sustained (?eight) casualties.

In this document, Misurasata admitted its responsibility. It stated that they entered Bluefields. This is an open violation of the Mexico agreements. It gives an absolutely childish explanation that lacks any seriousness. They entered Bluefields, but they blame the government for the consequences of their action. This is ridiculous.

Regarding the death of nurse [name indistinct] of (Karawala), the document stated that this took place [words indistinct] outside the military control of the Misurasata resistance and that Misurasata will continue to investigate this regrettable incident so that it can be fully clarified. This statement is contradictory because Misurasata states that it is not responsible for the action, but at the same time it states that it will investigate it.

In this document, Misurasata also states that it is not aware of the other actions mentioned in the government document, in other words, that Misurasata was not associated with those actions. Therefore, we suppose those actions were carried out by forces that do not belong to Misurasata or that if they belong to Misurasata they do not obey the orders of the Misurasata leadership.

Even though there was not a satisfactory explanation of the Laguna de Perlas and Bluefields attacks, which constitute two flagrant violations of the Mexico agreements, the government decided to accept Misurasata's explanations and proceeded to propose the implementation of practical mechanisms to guarantee the fulfillment of the agreements. The government proposed [words indistinct] establish practical mechanisms.

The government proposed: 1) The creation of commissions comprised of representative personalities from the Atlantic coast appointed by common agreement between the government and Misurasata. The essential responsibility of these commissions would be to receive the charges on violations of the Mexico agreements, investigate those charges, and issue a public opinion. 2) Coordination mechanisms -- the designation of Misurasata military chiefs who would maintain direct communications with the chiefs of the Armed Forces in each zone to: a) report the [word indistinct] troops and units; b) coordinate the arrival of supplies in the communities; and c) establish a permanent mechanism of communication between the Misurasata leadership and the Nicaraguan Government.

For its part, Misurasata proposed: 1) The creation of a tripartite commission comprised of two members of Misurasata, two members of the Nicaraguan Government, three representatives of (?nongovernmental) organizations, one member of the World Council of Indian Peoples, one member of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, and one member of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference to supervise and review the fulfillment of the commitments. 2) Immediate demilitarization of the Indian communities and areas by the government's military forces. 3) Immediate discussion of fundamental issues land, autonomy and so on [words indistinct]. 4) Establishment of a permanent mechanism of communication between the Misurasata leadership and the Nicaraguan Government in a [words indistinct].

The government replied to the Misurasata proposal by pointing out the following: First, the point on immediate demilitarization of the communities was not a mechanism to guarantee the fulfillment of the Mexico agreements. Instead, it was a completely new proposal and was therefore out of place in a proposal on mechanisms, in addition to being politically and militarily unrealistic. Second, it must be noted that Misurasata eliminated the practical mechanism of coordination that the government was proposing within the spirit (?confirmed) in the Mexico agreements, to prevent military actions that would have human and material costs. The proposal they presented on the commission was a mechanism that would be used after the military actions, the deaths [words indistinct] took place. The government rejected the proposal on the composition of the tripartite commission. This is a position of principle that the government has maintained in all international forums in view of various efforts on different occasions to intervene in Nicaragua's internal affairs. We rejected such a proposal. [end recording]

COMMANDER BORGE DISCUSSES PROBLEMS WITH SUMUS

PA250354 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Interior Minister Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge Martinez has met with the board of directors of the National Association of Sumu Communities to discuss various problems afflicting this Atlantic coast ethnic group. The revolutionary leader supported the Sumus' peace initiatives, while Sumu leaders voiced to Commander Borge their satisfaction over the dialogue between the revolutionary government and Miskito, Sumu, Rama, Sandinist Unity leader Brooklyn Rivera.

Commander Borge said that in a few days, the National Commission on Autonomy will meet. Thus, the Sumus must be there to present their viewpoints. The revolutionary government cannot make decisions affecting the Atlantic coast without consulting the Sumus, he said.

Meanwhile, the general secretary of the National Association of Sumu Communities, Murphy Almendarez, read to Commander Borge a message addressed to various personalities linked in one way or another to the Atlantic coast problem:

[Begin recording] We urge the Sumu people to establish a strong unified community to fight off contrived situations that could emerge. We must firmly maintain our unity in order to reconstruct a new society full of peace, progress, and liberty. [end recording]

MISURA SAYS EPS PLANS TO BOMB INDIAN COMMUNITIES

PA250453 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- The Nicaraguan Indian organization, Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramos [Misura], , charged today that the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] is planning to bomb 10 communities in Northern Zelaya Department. Misura is an organization formed by the Miskitos, Sumus, Ramas, and black creoles of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast and has an army of 3,000 fighters in that area.

In a communique released in Tegucigalpa today, the Indian organization says that its intelligence sources have reported that the communities to be bombed by the EPS are (Hollower), (Playa Cicza), Prinzapolka, Lapan, Yulu, (Marijuala), Laquna de Perle, Tasbapone, and Kara. The residents are being advised to store medicine and food, and a call has been made to the Indian commanders to prepare to defend the civilians to the best of their ability.

ATLANTIC COAST LANDING STRIP COMPLETED

PA282257 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] The Construction Ministry has reported the completion of the landing strip in Bluefields, on the Atlantic coast of our country. The landing strip, 2,000 meters long, cost approximately 200 million cordobas and will allow uninterrupted air transportation throughout the year. The landing strip will allow our government to export nontraditional products to Caribbean countries by shortening distances and costs.

Construction Minister Mauricio Valenzuela revealed that the new landing strip in Bluefields took 21 months to build because the rains caused interruptions in the work. More than 100 workers participated in the project, which will benefit 33,000 local townsfolk by facilitating their transportation and communications with the Pacific zone of the country.

U.S., BRITISH MERCENARIES REPORTEDLY RECRUITED

PA261640 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 26 May 85

[Text] This is an international report from London. The weekly THE OBSERVER charged in this Sunday's edition that more British and U.S. mercenaries will be joining the counterrevolutionary bands trying to overthrow the Sandinist government of Nicaragua. According to the weekly, the recruitment is being carried out by U.S. millionaires, rightist retired generals, and leaders of bands being paid by the CIA to maintain the struggle against the Nicaraguan regime. These leaders arrive in London secretly.

THE OBSERVER has been informed that at least 40 former British soldiers have agreed to join the counterrevolutionaries in the next few days, and for this purpose they will be traveling to Honduras with a group of North Americans who also have been recruited to fight in Nicaragua. They will have to receive training because they are inexperienced in moving around the mountainous area that separates Honduras from Nicaragua.

We shall see how long it takes before these British and Yankee mercenaries are captured or eliminated.

FDN TO LAUNCH EXPANDED OFFENSIVE 1 JUNE

PA250442 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Managua -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] will launch an expanded offensive against the Sandinist government as of 1 June. Adolfo Calero Portocarrero, civilian-military leader of the FDN, has announced that the date coincides with the deadline given by the Nicaraguan resistance to the FSLN to hold a national dialogue. This request was rejected by the Nicaraguan Government.

REAGAN DISCUSSES NICARAGUA IN FLORIDA SPEECH

FL281824 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan acknowledged implicitly today that the Nicaraguan revolution will succeed if the United States does not intervene. During a campaign banquet for Republican Senator Paula Hawkins in Florida, the U.S. President said the White House must not allow the success of Sandinist Nicaragua. Reagan said: We cannot permit the success of those communists.

Reagan insisted that Cuba and Nicaragua are involved in the armed conflicts in Central America, which actually stem from the miserable economic political, and social conditions that the people of that region have historically suffered.

The banquet at which Reagan spoke was to raise funds for Senator Hawkins whose brother Llewellen Fickes will be tried next month on charges of sexually abusing his 11-year-old stepdaughter and her 8-year-old cousin. Paula Hawkins is described by officials as a champion in the struggle against child abuse which is why she called the MIAMI HERALD's publication of the charges against her brother untimely and inopportune.

Mrs Hawkins was an active promoter of the anti-Cuban broadcasts which recently began transmitting from Florida.

LATIN AMERICAN JOURNALISTS OFFICIAL ON RADIO MARTI

PA270433 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 85

[Interview with Federation of Latin American Journalists [FELAP] President Danilo Aguirre by Radio Havana reporter Estrella Diaz; date or place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Diaz] Nicaraguan citizen Danilo Aguirre recently visited our country; he is president of FELAP. During his visit in the Cuban capital, Radio Havana Cuba had the opportunity to talk with Danilo Aguirre, who gave us his opinion about the beginning of broadcasts by the subversive station Radio Marti, promoted by the United States against Cuba.

[Aguirre] We believe that the installation and use of this radio station, with the intention of creating subversion or destabilization in Cuba, will have no effect on the Cuban people, who have withstood and resisted provocations and aggressions for 26 years. Nevertheless, the fact that this is a new act of disrespect and hatred for international norms of coexistence is worrisome, extremely worrisome. The U.S. Administration, presided over by Ronald Reagan and a group of extremists in the White House and the Pentagon, are really defying the world stability attained after World War II, when a similar process created by Nazism-facism led the world to a tremendous holocaust. We believe that seen from that viewpoint and analyzed along with other actions taken by the U.S. Government, basically to despise all international coexistence and to not respect the peoples' sovereignty and self-determination, is part of a stepped up aggression that represents a grave danger for world peace.

In addition, we believe that the Cuban people and their government have the right to adopt any kind of measure to counter this new provocation -- which has reached sacrilegious limits, if I may use a religious term, when the U.S. Government used the name of Jose Marti, a national hero who symbolizes all the Cuban people's struggle, independence, and liberty.

We, the journalists of the Latin American continent, comprising FELAP and affiliated organizations, are united with the Cuban people and their government, just as we have been in the past. We believe that the whole world will reject this new provocation just as it has rejected similar provocations in the past. In fact, this attitude has already been rejected, because it can only create greater areas of tension and conflict in the world.

[Diaz] You are aware that the United States' attitude is not new. Radio station broadcasts have been used as aggression against other countries on other occasions. For example, a radio station was installed in Costa Rica against your country, Nicaragua. I would like to hear your commentary on the effects derived from this?

[Aguirre] Yes, it seems that this is a policy included in what is called the Santa Fe document, which appears to be the current U.S. Administration's "Mein Kampf." It is trying to invade by every means, resorting to regressive, capitalist, and exploitative messages to the Latin American peoples who are trying to break their dependence. In Nicaragua's case, it is clear that the Voice of America is being used for this purpose. A complete military installation has been built in Costa Rica; we have seen documents and photographs which prove this is practically the occupation of a part of the Costa Rican territory. You can only enter there with documents issued by the U.S. Embassy in that country. From this station they broadcast toward Nicaragua, where the revolutionary process -- even though it does not have the Cuban revolution's years of consolidation -- and our people, forged in the struggle, are sure of their mission and the road they have chosen, so none of the goals sought by the Reagan administration have been attained.

Nevertheless, the station installed there as a repeater of the Voice of America, with special programs beamed toward Nicaragua, plus other measures -- including the direct military aggression being carried out by the CIA through its mercenaries -- are part of the Reagan administration's challenge to the world and lack of respect for peoples' sovereignty. Concerning the radio station, it has not produced any internal effect on our peoples' convictions, and we are sure this will be the case in Cuba. However, we consider it a challenge and lack of respect for our sovereignty, and we have denounced it and will continue to denounce it.

COMMENTARY PRAISES RELATIONS WITH USSR

PA250225 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 May 85

[Station commentary: "Our Relations With the Soviet Union Grow Closer and Stronger"]

[Text] Cuban-USSR relations cause strong uneasiness in U.S. Government circles. It has always been so. For this reason -- as General of the Army Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, said in his speech on the occasion of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism -- U.S. imperialist spokesmen and ideologists work in vain to fabricate rifts, ambiguities, and misunderstandings between the Soviet Union and Cuba. But they will never succeed. Relations between the two nations continue to grow closer and stronger.

In the current, complex international situation, cooperation between the Soviet Union and Cuba is especially important. The Soviet Union continues to be Cuba's most important friend and ally, both economically and politically. President Fidel Castro said this. Although relations with the United States could be restored some day, these could never be like those with the Soviet Union. We Cubans will never forget that it was Lenin's homeland that came to our assistance early and offered to cooperate with us when official relations had not even been established.

At that time oil was used by the United States as an instrument to stifle the Cuban revolution. Since then assistance from the Soviet Union has not been lacking. During an interview with EFE, Cuban Leader Fidel Castro noted this, saying: Political problems, like the October crisis, never materialized in USSR-Cuban economic relations. We have sometimes criticized the USSR, even publicly. However, this has never resulted in the slightest economic pressure on our country. The Soviet Union has always shipped to Cuba the oil it needs. Cuba has even been authorized to sell any surplus crude oil on the international market. The Soviet Union has cooperated with us in every economic, scientific, and technological aspect. Because of this cooperation, in the midst of the world crisis, Cuba's overall production has continued to grow and is expected to grow by not less than 4 percent this year.

Of course, the imperialist enemy does not take this into consideration and even forgets the most basic norms of international law. Does not the United States maintain relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries? So, why does Cuba have to cease its relations with the Soviet Union in order to have good relations with the United States? In truth, there is no reason to think that our friendship with the Soviet Union will hamper our good relations with Latin American countries or the United States.

Cuba has good relations with capitalist nations such as Japan France, Spain, and Argentina and ties with the United Kingdom and the FRG. This is why Cuba will not tolerate being forced to break with a country such as the Soviet Union, with which we have close political, friendship, ideological, and military ties. Cuba will not relinquish any of its principles in exchange for any type of advantage. We will not renounce our flag to gain anyone's sympathy. These principles can be summed up in the words uttered by Raul Castro during the ceremony commemorating the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism.

Raul Castro said: Today we commemorate the 40th anniversary of fascism's defeat which happily coincides with the 25th anniversary of the reestablishment of relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba; in 75 years, in the year 2,060, our descendants will be able to jubilantly and with dignity commemorate in socialist Cuba the first centennial of that embrace between two proples and parties that no force on earth will be able to break.

NATIONAL BANK PRESIDENT ON FOREIGN DEBT

FL181852 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 May 85

[Text] Cuba has steadily reduced the service charges on its foreign debt, which it has been renegotiating, and seeks to speed up as much as possible the complete normalization of its financial relations with countries having a free-market economy. Raul Leon Torras, president of the National Bank of Cuba, stated that these conditions were achieved despite the extremely adverse circumstances under which our country carries out its economic relations with those countries.

He stressed that the Cuban position is due to measures that were adopted and to the nature of trade with the socialist countries, especially the USSR, with which trade is balanced. Leon Torras said that even though it is feasible for Cuba to face its debt problem, it would be impossible for the rest of Latin America to do so by following IMF guidelines because as Fidel has explained, the economic, social, and political consequences would be disastrous. It is necessary, as Fidel has said, for the creditors to assume the debts to the international banking system and reduce their huge defense budgets.

GUYANA

BURNHAM SENDS MESSAGE TO ARGENTINE PRESIDENT

FL262049 Bridgetown CANA in English 1644 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, May 25, CANA -- President Forbes Burnham has called for strengthened ties between Guyana and Argentina in a message sent to his Argentine counterpart on that country's national day. In the message to President Raul Alfonsin, Burnham noted both Guyana and Argentina shared many common interests. Guyana is keenly interested in further strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation between our two nations. He praised Argentina's role under Alfonsin in the international forums to which both countries belong. Burnham also expressed Guyana's readiness to work with Argentina and other countries to promote the interests of developing countries and to secure international peace and harmony.

SURINAME

BOUTERSE REPORTEDLY SUFFERED 'MILD STROKE'

PM281429 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 21 May 85 p 1

[Text] The Hague-Paramaribo, 21 May -- Some 2 weeks ago Surinamese Army leader Desi Bouterse suffered a mild stroke. As a result of the stroke the left side of his face was somewhat out of shape. This was made known yesterday by well-informed sources in Paramaribo. Since the stroke the Army leader has received medical treatment. Bouterse has been recuperating for a few days in the resort of Blance Marie Vallen in the Surinamese interior. He has already begun to hold consultations there in his function of Army chief. Bouterse has not appeared in public for the past 2 weeks. No official announcement about the Army leader's health has been made and this has led to a stream of rumors.

VENEZUELA

U.S. TREATMENT OF FORMER PRESIDENT PROTESTED

PA281709 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1507 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Caracas, 28 May (EFE) -- According to Foreign Ministry sources, the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry has sent a protest note to the U.S. Embassy in Caracas regarding the treatment given to former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at a New York City airport. The former president was searched at John F. Kennedy Airport by officials who ignored his diplomatic passport and his being a former president of a country with which the United States maintains relations. Venezuelan Foreign Minister Consalvi has noted that the protest note expresses Venezuela's surprise over Perez' treatment. The foreign minister said that Venezuela's is very respectful of important Americans and that the Foreign Ministry is not asking for special treatment for people who have Venezuelan diplomatic passports because these passports do not bring any privileges in countries where the holders have not been accredited. However, the foreign minister said that in the case of former presidents, the United States could treat them respectfully, especially in the case of former President Perez, who maintained friendly diplomatic relations with the United States. The foreign minister said that this is the tone of the note sent to the U.S. Embassy in Caracas to inform the U.S. Government about the situation, since the State Department has no other way of knowing about it.